

REMARKS

Claims 10-13 and 15-16 are amended herein without narrowing the claims within the meaning of *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, 56 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. 2000). No new matter is presented in any of the foregoing and, accordingly, approval and entry of the amended claims are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 14 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 10-13 and 15-16 are pending.

Applicants request entry of this Rule§116 Response because it is believed that the amendment of claims 10-13 and 15-16 puts this application into condition for allowance and should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised.

Item 9 of the Action indicates that claims 10-13 and 15-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if suitably rewritten to independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (Action at page 10).

Claims 10-13 and 15-16 are rewritten herein to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Withdrawal of the objection and allowance of claims 10-13 and 15-16 are requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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